Ross's Hollow

JOSEPH AND PHOEBE ELIZABETH BUNNELL CLUFF

Joseph Cluff was one of the first settlers of Center Creek. He was the sixth child of David and Betsey or Elizabeth Hall Cluff born in Willoughby, Geauga County, Ohio, on 11 Jan. 1834. He journeyed with his parents to Kirtland, Nauvoo and finally to the West and Utah. He came to Utah with Blair, Williams and Company, as a teamster arriving in Salt Lake one month before his parents who came on 4 Oct. 1850. They settled in Provo where Joseph helped his father and brothers. On 28 April 1857 he married Phoebe Elizabeth Bunnell. The small farm which Joseph owned in Provo was not adequate and instead of renting, he moved with his family to settle Center Creek in 1861, where there was plenty of Government land subject to entry. In 1866 when the "Black Hawk War" broke out Brigham Young advised the people to move to larger settlements and they returned to Provo. After the war he and his brother Henry leased a farm north of Heber from Thomas Ross. They left their families in Provo and left for Heber. There was no open road through Provo Canyon and they had to shovel snow from slides to get through, finally arriving at the farm and put in crops early, which paid off. They had many harrowing experiences crossing the swollen river at Charleston. The brothers had a good crop when other crops were destroyed. In 1867 David Cluff Sr. called his boys together to cooperate in the ranch and stock-raising enterprises. They decided to go to Ross' Hollow and Joseph was chosen manager. This place was later called "Cluff's Ranch" and was located where Keetley now is. Joseph was a student of the Book of Mormon and Doctrine and Covenants and gave lectures in Heber and Kamas on the historical and geographical parts of the Nephite Record. The Cluff's fenced the meadow land and built onto the log house. Father Cluff after 43 years as a shipbuilder in New Hampshire was very good at hewing logs with a broadax. Joseph went to the Eastern States on a mission and upon his return sold his interest in the ranch to William Wallace and Henry, his brothers. He moved to Central, Graham Co., Arizona where he died 4 June 1914.

Ross Hollow ⟶
Henry Cluff's Ranch
in Keetley

Joseph's wife Phoebe, a daughter of David Edwin and Sallie Heller Conrad Bunnell, was born 5 July 1841 in Brownstown, Wayne Co., Michigan. Her parents became converts to the Gospel and were baptized in 1840. The family moved to Nauvoo where her father assisted in the erection of the Nauvoo Temple in which they received their endowments. Phoebe was but an infant when the Prophet Joseph Smith was martyred but it affected her life because the family was persecuted along with the other Saints and they abandoned their home and moved to Iowa. Here the family struggled to get means to join the Saints in the Rocky Mountains. Her father was a house carpenter and helped build up the communities where they lived before and after coming to Utah. They came to Utah on the 6th of Oct. 1852 in the J. C. Snow Company and then went to Provo to live. Phoebe had a lot of faith and was a good wife and mother. She went with her husband and other members of the Cluff family to Arizona where she died 9 Aug. 1914. Joseph and Phoebe were the parents of nine children as follows: 1. Joseph Edwin, born 6 Feb. 1858 in Provo. He married Elizabeth D. Moody 14 May 1884. He died 22 April 1920 at Central, Arizona. 2. David William, born 6 Sept. 1859 in Provo. He married Sarah Elda Mattice. He died 6 April 1917 at Thatcher, Arizona. 3. Joanna E., born 5 Jan. 1862. 4. Alpharetta R., born 25 Sept. 1866. 5. Emma L., born 2 Jan. 1868. 6. Warren Lafayette, born 23 April 1871. 7. Clarissa V., born 10 March 1874. 8. Romania O., born 5 Jan. 1877. 9. Benjamin Franklin, born 29 April 1880 and married Rhoda Isabella Blain 11 Oct. 1905. He died in Central, Arizona 23 July 1935.

Tom Baum
said Ross' Hollow
is 1st big hollow
on right as you
leave Jordanelle
going east toward
Frances = Not so
It was Keetley
Meadow = North of
Keetley
Boarding
House